

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-19 are pending. Claims 20-27 have been canceled without prejudice and without disclaimer. Claim 1 has been amended. No new matter has been introduced. Applicants believe the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 5-19.

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Peikari for the courteous telephone interview extended to Applicants' counsel, Chun-Pok Leung, on June 14, 2006. Pursuant to the telephone interview, Applicants have amended to claim 1 to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yanai et al. (US 5,544,347). No new issue has been presented. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 as amended and claims 2-4 depending therefrom are allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



Chun-Pok Leung
Reg. No. 41,405

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
RL:rl
60799475 v1